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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

In re DMCA Subpoena to Spartan Host LLC

MISC. CASE NO. 3:23-mc-80257

**REQUEST FOR SUBPOENA TO  
SPARTAN HOST LLC PURSUANT TO  
17 U.S.C. § 512(H)**

Petitioner, Cognosphere Pte. Ltd. (“Cognosphere”) through its undersigned counsel of record, hereby requests that the Clerk of this Court issue a subpoena to Spartan Host LLC (“Spartan Host”) to identify alleged infringers at issue, under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (“DMCA”), 17 U.S.C. § 512(h) (the “DMCA Subpoena”). The proposed DMCA Subpoena is attached as Exhibit A.

The DMCA Subpoena is directed to Spartan Host LLC. Cognosphere is informed and believes that Spartan Host LLC, together with its affiliated entity Spartan Host Ltd., is the service provider to which the subject of the subpoena posted infringing Cognosphere content hosted within the United States (the “Content”). The Content appears on the website [www.casks.me](http://www.casks.me).

The Content infringes Cognosphere’s exclusive rights under copyright law. Specifically, it infringes Cognosphere’s rights in its popular video game *Genshin Impact*. See Declaration of James D. Berkley dated October 6, 2023 (“Berkley Decl.”). Cognosphere has satisfied the requirements for issuance of a subpoena under 17 U.S.C. § 512(h), namely:

1. Cognosphere has submitted a copy of the notification sent under 17 U.S.C. § 512(c)(3)(A) as Exhibit 1 to the Declaration of James D. Berkley;
2. Cognosphere has submitted the proposed DMCA Subpoena attached hereto as Exhibit A; and
3. Cognosphere, through its counsel of record, has submitted a sworn declaration confirming that the purpose for which the DMCA subpoena is sought is to obtain the identity of an alleged infringer, and that such information will only be used for the purpose of protecting Cognosphere's rights under Title 17 U.S.C. §§ 101, et. seq.

Cognosphere respectfully requests that the Clerk expeditiously issue and sign the proposed DMCA Subpoena pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 512(h)(4).

DATED: October 6, 2023

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JAMES D. BERKLEY  
MITCHELL SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP

By: /s/ James D. Berkley  
James D. Berkley  
Attorney for Cognosphere Pte. Ltd.

# EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
for the  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

In re DMCA Subpoena to Spartan Host LLC

*Plaintiff*

v.

*Defendant*

Civil Action No.

**SUBPOENA TO PRODUCE DOCUMENTS, INFORMATION, OR OBJECTS  
OR TO PERMIT INSPECTION OF PREMISES IN A CIVIL ACTION**

To: SPARTAN HOST LLC., c/o HARVARD BUSINESS SERVICES, INC., 16192 Coastal Hwy, Lewes, DE 19958

*(Name of person to whom this subpoena is directed)*

☒ **Production:** **YOU ARE COMMANDED** to produce at the time, date, and place set forth below the following documents, electronically stored information, or objects, and to permit inspection, copying, testing, or sampling of the material:

Information, including name(s), address(es), telephone number(s), e-mail address(es), and IP address(es), or other information within your possession, custody or control, sufficient to identify the user(s) responsible for making available for distribution and/or otherwise controlling the materials currently or formerly available at the following Uniform Resource Locators ("URLs"):

- <https://casks.me/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/image-13-1024x461.png>
- <https://casks.me/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/image-12-1024x482.png>
- <https://casks.me/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/image-28-1024x461.png>
- [https://casks.me/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/IMG\\_20221115\\_095313-edited.png](https://casks.me/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/IMG_20221115_095313-edited.png)

Place: ABC Legal Services, 633 Yesler Way Seattle, WA 98104

Date and Time:

October 23, 2023 at 10:00 am

☐ **Inspection of Premises:** **YOU ARE COMMANDED** to permit entry onto the designated premises, land, or other property possessed or controlled by you at the time, date, and location set forth below, so that the requesting party may inspect, measure, survey, photograph, test, or sample the property or any designated object or operation on it.

Place:

Date and Time:

The following provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 45 are attached – Rule 45(c), relating to the place of compliance; Rule 45(d), relating to your protection as a person subject to a subpoena; and Rule 45(e) and (g), relating to your duty to respond to this subpoena and the potential consequences of not doing so.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CLERK OF COURT

OR

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Attorney's signature*



The name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the attorney representing *(name of party)* \_\_\_\_\_  
Cognosphere Pte. Ltd. \_\_\_\_\_, who issues or requests this subpoena, are:  
James D. Berkley / Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP / 2049 Century Park East, 18th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067 /  
Telephone: 310-312-2000

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**Notice to the person who issues or requests this subpoena**

If this subpoena commands the production of documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things or the inspection of premises before trial, a notice and a copy of the subpoena must be served on each party in this case before it is served on the person to whom it is directed. Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(a)(4).

Civil Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

**PROOF OF SERVICE***(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 45.)*

I received this subpoena for (name of individual and title, if any) \_\_\_\_\_  
 on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I served the subpoena by delivering a copy to the named person as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ on (date) \_\_\_\_\_ ; or

☐ I returned the subpoena unexecuted because: \_\_\_\_\_

Unless the subpoena was issued on behalf of the United States, or one of its officers or agents, I have also  
 tendered to the witness the fees for one day's attendance, and the mileage allowed by law, in the amount of  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My fees are \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for travel and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for services, for a total of \$ 0.00

I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Server's signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed name and title*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Server's address*

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc.:

**Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45 (c), (d), (e), and (g) (Effective 12/1/13)****(c) Place of Compliance.**

**(1) For a Trial, Hearing, or Deposition.** A subpoena may command a person to attend a trial, hearing, or deposition only as follows:

- (A) within 100 miles of where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person; or
- (B) within the state where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person, if the person
  - (i) is a party or a party's officer; or
  - (ii) is commanded to attend a trial and would not incur substantial expense.

**(2) For Other Discovery.** A subpoena may command:

- (A) production of documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things at a place within 100 miles of where the person resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person; and
- (B) inspection of premises at the premises to be inspected.

**(d) Protecting a Person Subject to a Subpoena; Enforcement.**

**(1) Avoiding Undue Burden or Expense; Sanctions.** A party or attorney responsible for issuing and serving a subpoena must take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to the subpoena. The court for the district where compliance is required must enforce this duty and impose an appropriate sanction—which may include lost earnings and reasonable attorney's fees—on a party or attorney who fails to comply.

**(2) Command to Produce Materials or Permit Inspection.**

(A) *Appearance Not Required.* A person commanded to produce documents, electronically stored information, or tangible things, or to permit the inspection of premises, need not appear in person at the place of production or inspection unless also commanded to appear for a deposition, hearing, or trial.

(B) *Objections.* A person commanded to produce documents or tangible things or to permit inspection may serve on the party or attorney designated in the subpoena a written objection to inspecting, copying, testing, or sampling any or all of the materials or to inspecting the premises—or to producing electronically stored information in the form or forms requested. The objection must be served before the earlier of the time specified for compliance or 14 days after the subpoena is served. If an objection is made, the following rules apply:

- (i) At any time, on notice to the commanded person, the serving party may move the court for the district where compliance is required for an order compelling production or inspection.
- (ii) These acts may be required only as directed in the order, and the order must protect a person who is neither a party nor a party's officer from significant expense resulting from compliance.

**(3) Quashing or Modifying a Subpoena.**

(A) *When Required.* On timely motion, the court for the district where compliance is required must quash or modify a subpoena that:

- (i) fails to allow a reasonable time to comply;
- (ii) requires a person to comply beyond the geographical limits specified in Rule 45(c);
- (iii) requires disclosure of privileged or other protected matter, if no exception or waiver applies; or
- (iv) subjects a person to undue burden.

(B) *When Permitted.* To protect a person subject to or affected by a subpoena, the court for the district where compliance is required may, on motion, quash or modify the subpoena if it requires:

- (i) disclosing a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information; or

(ii) disclosing an unretained expert's opinion or information that does not describe specific occurrences in dispute and results from the expert's study that was not requested by a party.

(C) *Specifying Conditions as an Alternative.* In the circumstances described in Rule 45(d)(3)(B), the court may, instead of quashing or modifying a subpoena, order appearance or production under specified conditions if the serving party:

- (i) shows a substantial need for the testimony or material that cannot be otherwise met without undue hardship; and
- (ii) ensures that the subpoenaed person will be reasonably compensated.

**(e) Duties in Responding to a Subpoena.**

**(1) Producing Documents or Electronically Stored Information.** These procedures apply to producing documents or electronically stored information:

(A) *Documents.* A person responding to a subpoena to produce documents must produce them as they are kept in the ordinary course of business or must organize and label them to correspond to the categories in the demand.

(B) *Form for Producing Electronically Stored Information Not Specified.* If a subpoena does not specify a form for producing electronically stored information, the person responding must produce it in a form or forms in which it is ordinarily maintained or in a reasonably usable form or forms.

(C) *Electronically Stored Information Produced in Only One Form.* The person responding need not produce the same electronically stored information in more than one form.

(D) *Inaccessible Electronically Stored Information.* The person responding need not provide discovery of electronically stored information from sources that the person identifies as not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. On motion to compel discovery or for a protective order, the person responding must show that the information is not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost. If that showing is made, the court may nonetheless order discovery from such sources if the requesting party shows good cause, considering the limitations of Rule 26(b)(2)(C). The court may specify conditions for the discovery.

**(2) Claiming Privilege or Protection.**

(A) *Information Withheld.* A person withholding subpoenaed information under a claim that it is privileged or subject to protection as trial-preparation material must:

- (i) expressly make the claim; and
- (ii) describe the nature of the withheld documents, communications, or tangible things in a manner that, without revealing information itself privileged or protected, will enable the parties to assess the claim.

(B) *Information Produced.* If information produced in response to a subpoena is subject to a claim of privilege or of protection as trial-preparation material, the person making the claim may notify any party that received the information of the claim and the basis for it. After being notified, a party must promptly return, sequester, or destroy the specified information and any copies it has; must not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved; must take reasonable steps to retrieve the information if the party disclosed it before being notified; and may promptly present the information under seal to the court for the district where compliance is required for a determination of the claim. The person who produced the information must preserve the information until the claim is resolved.

**(g) Contempt.**

The court for the district where compliance is required—and also, after a motion is transferred, the issuing court—may hold in contempt a person who, having been served, fails without adequate excuse to obey the subpoena or an order related to it.